

VA/NIH Prosthetics Roundtable

Introduction

On June 25, 2001, the Rehabilitation Research and Development (RR&D) Service of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR), a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), cosponsored a Prosthetics Roundtable in Rockville, MD. The event brought together 22 scientists, clinicians, and amputee advocates from VA, NIH, universities, and private industry for an exchange of information and ideas aimed at forging a prosthetics-research agenda for the new millennium.

The specific goals of the event encompassed the following:

- To guide VA and NCMRR in developing funding initiatives—either as individual agencies or in partnership—for research on limb salvage, amputation management, artificial limb development, and healthcare delivery for amputees;
- To stimulate ongoing communication and creative collaboration among prosthetics professionals across different disciplines and fields of research and at different institutions; and
- To explore ideas for applying new technologies and therapies, internationally, to benefit land mine survivors and other amputees.